

Contributors

Eduardo Lalo

Eduardo Lalo is an internationally renowned Puerto Rican novelist and poet, visual artist and educator. Lalo completed his studies at Columbia University (New York) and Université de la Sorbonne Nouvelle (Paris), and is currently a Professor in the Humanities at the University of Puerto Rico. His books combine hybrids of essay and fiction, which he integrates with visual arts (drawing and photography), essays and fiction in his published work. Lalo became an internationally acclaimed literary figure in 2013 upon receiving the most prestigious award in the Hispanic-American literary world, the Rómulo Gallegos Award, for his novel *Simone*. A habitual columnist and literary critic in the San Juan-based *80 Grados*, he is also a video artist of films including *donde* (2005) and *La ciudad perdida* (2006). Featured in dozens of exhibitions nationally and abroad, his photography and video work presents an esoteric look at urban spaces through black and white images, sounds and narrative that capture the isolation of the post industrialization era.

Gloria Posada

Gloria Posada holds a degree in Anthropology from the University of Antioquia, a professorship in Plastic Arts from the National University of Colombia, a master's degree in Aesthetics from the National University of Colombia and an advanced studies degree in Historical and Natural Heritage from the University of Huelva, Spain. Posada has devoted herself to an enquiry into nature and the world, which manifests itself sometimes in words and sometimes in images or shapes. In her quest, poetry and plastic arts have had a parallel development, which occasionally involves installations, sound art or interventions of public space. In Posada's collections, there is reflection on the sacred and mortality, on history and the collective imagery about the feminine and its archetypes, and an exploration of the past and present of personal history. Posada has won several award for her work including the National Young Poetry Award

of the Colombian Institute of Culture for her book *Oficio divino* (*Divine Office*), second prize in the Carlos Castro Saavedra National Poetry Award, the Individual Creation Scholarship of the Colombian Ministry of Culture for her *Lugares* (*Places*) project, and was granted the Colombia-Mexico artistic residence and the FONCA/CONALCULTA award of Mexico among others.

Jessica Cuello

Jessica Cuello is the author of the chapbooks *My Father's Bargain* (Finishing Line Press, 2015), *By Fire* (Hyacinth Girl Press, 2013), and *Curie* (Kattywompus Press, 2011). She was the winner of the 2013 New Letters Poetry Prize and the recipient of The Decker Award for outstanding secondary teaching from Hollins University. Her first full-length manuscript, *Pricking*, is forthcoming from Tiger Bark Press in 2016.

Jessica Poli

Jessica Poli is the author of three chapbooks: *Alexia* (Sixth Finch, forthcoming), *Glassland* (JMWW, 2014) and *The Egg Mistress* (Gold Line Press, 2013). She is currently finishing an MFA at Syracuse University, where she is Editor-in-Chief of *Salt Hill Journal*. She is also the Founder and Editor of *Birdfeast*, an online literary journal, and a Founding Editor of *Midnight City Books*, a small press based in Syracuse, NY.

Jaime García Maffla

Jaime García Maffla is a poet and essayist from Cali, Colombia. He studied philosophy and Letters at Universidad de los Andes and holds master's degree in literature from Pontificia Universidad Javeriana. His work contains strong influences from the Hispanic tradition and existentialism. Head of Humanities at the Universidad de Los Andes and Director of the Department of Literature at the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, he co-founded the poetry magazine *Hit Dice*, which appeared in 1972. A collaborator in the *Diccionario de Construcción y Régimen de la Lengua Castellana*, of the Instituto Caro y Cuervo, he is also listed in the group of poets known as Generación sin Nombre (Unnamed Generation). In 1997 he received the National Prize for Poetry from University of Antioquia.

He has also served as Coordinator of Poetry Workshops for Casa Silva and conducted research with Rubén Sierra Mejía, about poetry translation in Colombia. An independent author, he currently runs a private seminar Life and Poetry. Maffla is actively involved in the Art is Colombia Foundation and publishes the blog vocesdelvigia.blogspot.com.